United Nations A/RES/59/271

General Assembly

Distr.: General
7 February 2005

Fifty-ninth session
Agenda item 118

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Fifth Committee (A/59/648)*]

59/271. Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/218 B of 29 July 1994 and 54/244 of 23 December 1999,

Having considered the annual report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services for the period 1 July 2003 to 30 June 2004,[1]

1. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Office of Internal Oversight Services;

2. *Takes note* of the annual report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services;[1]

3. *Notes* the description of the mission of the Office of Internal Oversight Services, as outlined in its annual report, and in this regard stresses that the mission of the Office should be in full conformity with its mandate, as approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 48/218 B;

4. *Notes also* the information provided by the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the economies and savings generated by its recommendations, and requests the Office to explain its guidelines for measuring the impact of such economies and savings and to report to the General Assembly thereon in its next annual report;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, with regard to paragraph 53 of the annual report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services, to ensure strict conformity with the highest standards of quality when recruiting staff to fill language posts, in accordance with legislative mandates;

6. *Notes with concern* the findings of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on investigations, as reflected in paragraphs 42 to 47 of its annual report, as well as the fact that some of them reflect serious managerial problems and lack of control;

[1] See A/59/359.

7. *Stresses*, in this regard, the crucial importance of establishing an effective and efficient system of accountability throughout the Secretariat in order to prevent such problems and to make programme managers accountable;

8. *Takes note* of the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on its audit of the regional commissions,[2] and requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session on the actions taken by the legislative bodies of the regional commissions with regard to the recommendations of the report;

9. *Takes note also* of paragraph 63 of the annual report, relating to the audit of the non-governmental organization accreditation process;

10. *Reiterates*, in the context of paragraphs 8 and 9 above, paragraph 8 of its resolution 54/244, in which it emphasized that the appr al, change and discontinuation of legislative mandates are the exclusive prerogatives of intergovernmental legislative bodies;

11. *Concurs* with the observation of the Office of Internal Oversight Services in paragraph 55 of its annual report, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the Office continues to provide internal oversight of the entire claims process of the United Nations Compensation Commission and to report regularly thereon in the context of the annual reports of the Office.

76th plenary meeting
23 December 2004

[2] See A/58/785.